

# The Old Stone Wall

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State of New Hampshire, Department of Cultural Resources
Division of Historical Resources

Fall 2003

#### HISTORIC PRESERVATION TRIPLE PLAY

James L. Garvin

#### Contoocook Bridge Restoration Underway

Major work began in August on the state-owned Contoocook Covered Railroad Bridge. The National Society for the Preservation of Covered Bridges has employed Tim Andrews, proprietor of Barns and Bridges of New England, to lift the four sagging corners of the bridge and replace decayed bed timbers. The Society is donating the cost of Andrews' work from its Eastman-Thomas Fund.

Built in 1889 for the Concord and Claremont Branch of the Boston and Maine Railroad, the double Town lattice bridge is the oldest covered railroad bridge in the world. The span is under the administrative care of the Division of Historical Resources, which has no capital budget for its maintenance. Over the past decade, the National Society has donated repairs to the side sheathing and flat metal roof of the bridge, purchased

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Contoocook Covered Bridge, Interior View. (Photograph by James L. Garvin)

#### White Island Lighthouse Stabilized

The stately but sea-battered White Island Lighthouse at the Isles of Shoals has been girded against the onslaught of winter storms. Temporary stabilization will be followed in 2004 by permanent repairs

Built in 1859, the legendary tower became the property of the State of New Hampshire in 1993 when the U.S. Coast Guard relinquished title to all its White Island property except for the actual beacon and other aids to navigation. The Department of Resources and Economic Development (DRED) assumed administrative responsibility for the tower and the lightkeeper's house. The federal deed of transfer gave the Division of Historical Resources a perpetual preservation easement on the property.

The tower became the subject of alarm and publicity in 2000 when its outer brick cylinder was seen to be developing a network of cracks. In response, DRED and DHR staff teamed up to draft an application to designate the lighthouse a Save America's Treasures project under a popular program of the National Park Service. After the tower was designated a Treasure in October, 2000, DRED and DHR submitted a grant application to fund conservation of the lighthouse.

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# Work Begins on the Eagle Block

Ground was broken in September for the Eagle Block rehabilitation at Newport, one of the most challenging preservation efforts yet seen in New Hampshire.

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South elevation of the Eagle Block, showing work in progress. (Photograph by James L. Garvin)

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### DEPARTMENT OF CULTURAL RESOURCES

Van McLeod Commissioner

The DHR is a state agency, supported by the State of New Hampshire, by the federal Historic Preservation Fund (through a matching grant administered by the National Park Service of the U.S. Department of the Interior), and by donated funds and services. In addition to its state functions, the DHR is also responsible for administering the federal preservation program in New Hampshire.

# Moose in a New Role — Working for Historic Preservation!

During the summer of 2003 the Division of Historical Resources held the first-ever competition for its Conservation License Plate (Moose Plate) grants, which by law are restricted to publicly owned buildings. The review committee was thrilled to receive a large number of applications, although it made the task of selecting the recipients that much harder. The winning projects, which will assist properties that are all listed in the National Register either individually or within historic districts, are:

- Deerfield Town Hall, Deerfield
- Derry/East Derry Upper Village Hall, Derry
- Jaffrey Meetinghouse, Jaffrey
- Hunt Memorial Building, Nashua
- Newmarket Fire Station, Newmarket
- Wentworth-Coolidge Mansion, Portsmouth (a National Historic Landmark)
- Sanbornton Town Hall, Sanbornton.

In addition to the DHR grants, three Moose Plate grants have been awarded by the NH State Council on the Arts for work at the National Register-listed opera houses in Franklin, Lebanon, and Rochester.

If New Hampshire vehicle owners continue to purchase and renew their Conservation License Plates, there will be another grant round in the summer of 2004. Please do your part to support the program!

#### www.mooseplate.com



The perfect all-occasion gift that keeps on giving!

#### PRESERVE AMERICA Applications Available

First Lady Laura Bush announced at a September 15 press conference that applications are being accepted for Preserve America Communities designations. This program recognizes communities that

- protect and celebrate their heritage
- use their historic assets for economic development and community revitalization
- encourage people to experience and appreciate local historic resources through education and heritage tourism programs.

Preserve America Community designation will be granted on a continuing basis. More information is at <a href="http://www.preserveamerica.gov">http://www.preserveamerica.gov</a>, or call 202-606-8503. A copy of the application is available online at <a href="http://www.preserveamerica.gov/communities-form.pdf">http://www.preserveamerica.gov/communities-form.pdf</a>. Preserve America is a White House initiative administered by the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, the Department of Commerce, and the Department of Interior, to provide support for local efforts to preserve open spaces and historic structures.

# One-Stop Shopping for Federal Grants

The Federal Office of Management and Budget has directed federal agencies to post all grant opportunity announcements on <a href="http://www.grants.gov">http://www.grants.gov</a>, starting November 7, 2003. The directive is part of OMB's implementation of the Federal Financial Assistance Management Improvement Act of 1999.

Agencies are required to provide potential applicants with enough information about any funding opportunity to decide whether to view the full announcement, with multiple ways to obtain the information and with one Web site that is searchable by keyword, date, the Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance or agency name.

### The Commissioner's Corner

#### Cultural Leaders Hold Summit on New Hampshire's Future

Leaders of many of the state's major cultural organizations gathered recently at the NH Institute of Art in Manchester for a cultural summit and agreed to work together creating a unified strategy for shaping the future of New Hampshire. In speaking to the group, I stated that we are at a crossroads, and I believe we have both an opportunity and a responsibility to be engaged at a new level.

In a spirited discussion of possible threats to New Hampshire's character, the attendees underscored the importance of engaging leaders of New Hampshire's 1,041 cultural organizations in collective advocacy and effective communication.

Brad Wyman, chair of the Land and Community Heritage Investment Program (LCHIP), said that the way funding for the land conservation and historic preservation program was recently slashed is symbolic of the need to strengthen awareness and public policies linked to the state's quality of life. Census data from 2000 confirms that the Granite State remains the fastest growing state in the Northeast.

Christine Dwyer, Chair of the NH Council on the Arts, offered data from the New England Council on the expanding economic impact of the "creative economy." She also shared research findings from a study on state investments in culture funded by The Pew Charitable Trusts. The study reported that programmatic and advocacy partnerships between organizations as well as engaging boards of directors and legislators were critical to successes in Maine, Pennsylvania and Kentucky.

The group endorsed a plan to invite trustees from all the state's cultural organizations to a larger summit early in 2004 that will continue the discussion and begin mapping a long-range strategy. The meeting will take advantage of the research on the creative economy conducted by the New England Council.

The Department of Cultural Resources and its divisions of the State Library, the State on the Arts and Historical Resources hosted the cultural summit in association with the New Hampshire Preservation Alliance, New Hampshire Main Street Center, New Hampshire Citizens for the Arts, LCHIP and the New Hampshire Library Association.

Board members of arts, heritage and library groups that attended the summit were encouraged to invite board members of other cultural organizations to attend the future summit. If you know of board chairs and board members of cultural organization in New Hampshire that would be interested in attending the 2004 summit, please invite them to call my office at 603-271-2540 and speak with my assistant Kim Williams.

I look forward to working together to help shape New Hampshire's future. We are at a cross roads and New Hampshire's cultural organizations have not only an opportunity, but a responsibility in helping to keep our state the special place that it is.

Van McLeod Commissioner

#### Calling All NH Artists!

The Division of Historical Resources is pleased to announce a competition for the design of a plaque to commemorate properties listed in the New Hampshire State Register of Historic Places. Entries should speak to the breadth of resources that can be listed on the State Register, as well as resources that are typical or unique to New Hampshire and its history and traditions.

NH DHR will also use the visual image in other media to identify all activities relating to the State Register. The competition is open to all artists based in New Hampshire. For more detailed information and a complete Request for Proposals, please visit the DHR web site, at <a href="http://www.nh.gov/nhdhr">http://www.nh.gov/nhdhr</a>, or contact the office at 603-271-3483.

#### Curator's Report

his past summer your Curator ■ logged in 161 disparate stateowned items, including many long stored at the State House and now transferred to the State Archives for safekeeping. A book of Japanese actor prints in a map case at the State Library has been identified as an important work of the Japanese artist Kuni-Sada (1786-1864). Display of some of the coins and medals in State Library collections is contemplated during 2004-2005. A War of 1812 knapsack and toleware canteen owned by John Quimby (1790-1864) of Hopkinton and a Civil War regimental flag flown by Company H of the First New Hampshire Volunteer Cavalry have been restored and will be on display at the State House soon. The War of 1812 knapsack and canteen were purchased by the Joint Legislative Historical Committee at auction in January 2003. The Company H regimental flag was presented to Governor and Council by the family of Charles W. Stevens in 1989.

Research is beginning this fall on a number of New Hampshire National Guard artillery pieces that were used during the Civil War and returned to the State National Guard in 1907. The Joint Legislative Historical Committee (Representative David Welch, Chair) and the Heritage Collections Committee (Representative Janet Wall, Chair) are discussing fundraising for the preservation of these rare and valuable items, which are nationally significant. The Civil War Memorials Commission (Representative Robert Letourneau, Chair) is proceeding with plans for erecting a monument to New Hampshire's dead and wounded at Antietam Battlefield in Maryland, and has started the selection process for a sculptor.

Looking ahead to the winter season, an exhibit on the construction and expansion of the State House is planned at the State Library. Meanwhile, photography of artistic work produced within the state corrections system will continue.

Russell Bastedo State Curator

## Historic Preservation Fund Barn Grants Completed

Thanks to the tremendous efforts of six barn owners and grant funding from the National Park Service's Historic Preservation Fund administered by the Division of Historical Resources, barns in Columbia, Epsom, Harrisville, Kingston, Lebanon and Milton are in fine shape after rehabilitation projects this summer.

To be eligible for grant funding, each barn had to be listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Barn owners have also signed preservation agreements, promising to maintain the repaired structures and to open them as needed for the public to view its investment in the projects. Grant requests for stabilization and safety measures were given first priority.

The grant-assisted barns are:

- Pioneer Farm barn, Columbia
- The Charles Sumner Hall Barn, Epsom
- Milan Walter Harris House and Barn, Harrisville
- The barn at the Josiah Bartlett House, Kingston (part of a National Historic Landmark property)
- Spring Hill Farm barn, Lebanon
- Jones Barn at the New Hampshire Farm Museum, Milton (funded by the museum and several grants, including one from LCHIP, the New Hampshire Land and Community Heritage Program).

This summer's round of rehabilitation projects is the second for the Division of Historical Resources. It follows a similar round last year for barns in Bethlehem, Columbia, Newington, Newmarket and Rochester. Both rounds were funded by a rare allotment from the federal Historic Preservation Fund. Prior to last year, 1983 was the last time New Hampshire received sufficient federal funding to offer grants for rehabilitation projects. This source of federal funding for barn repairs in New Hampshire is no longer available. In addition, these limited federal funds may only be directed to buildings listed on the

National Register of Historic Places, leaving many of the state's historic agricultural structures ineligible for funding and desperate for repair. The Division of Historical Resources, working with the Historic Agricultural Structures Advisory Committee, continues to seek other sources of funding for repairing the state's barns. Please feel free to contact the Division at preservation@nhdhr.state.nh.us or 603-271-3483 if you would like to be on the mailing list for future updates.

Elizabeth H. Muzzey State Survey Coordinator



Barn owner Dan Downes and Grant Construction Manager Francis Gilman survey the fine results of this summer's work at Spring Hill Farm in Lebanon. (Photograph by Elizabeth H. Muzzey)



Drainage on this hillside location was a particular dilemma for the Milan Walter Harris Barn project in Harrisville. "Gingerbread" trim on the barn was restored to match details on the house.

(Photograph by Elizabeth H. Muzzey)



At work on the foundation of the Josiah Bartlett Barn in Kingston. A horse shed was later added to the rear of the structure. (Photograph by Elizabeth H. Muzzey)

#### White Island Lighthouse

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Meanwhile, a North Hampton junior high school class announced its own campaign to save the structure. Led by teacher and Shoals specialist Sue Reynolds, the class named itself the "Lighthouse Kids" and became a local chapter of the American Lighthouse Foundation.

In January 2003, state representative Rogers Johnson of Stratham introduced a bill authorizing the state to accept up to \$125,000 from the Lighthouse Kids, and appropriating another \$125,000 from the state's general fund to match the students' contribution. Representative Johnson's bill was retained in committee, so the legislature's commitment to the restoration effort will not be decided until January 2004 at the earliest.

This spring, DRED committed \$25,000 of its income from the New Hampshire Conservation License Plate ("Moose Plate") program to fund a historic structure report and engineering evaluation of the tower. In March, DRED and DHR staff selected the Portland, Maine, architectural firm of Turk Tracey and Larry to compile the report.

On April 30, 2003, U. S. Senator Judd Gregg announced that New Hampshire will receive a Save America's Treasures matching grant of \$250,000 for preserving the lighthouse. With this funding, DRED will be poised to move quickly from this fall's evaluation of the tower's problems to actual repairs next spring and summer.

The cracked base of the tower has now been stabilized with a temporary girdle of vertical wooden stays, bound together by cinched nylon bands encircling the outside of the brick cylinder. This banding will equalize the stresses of wave impacts from winter storms—the same force that is believed to have cracked the tower. Next summer, after the internal design and original construction materials of the

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#### Recent State Listings to the National Register of Historic Places



Pearl Street Church, Portsmouth NH. Listed September 13, 2003. (Photograph by Timothy Orwig)

he Pearl Street Church has statewide significance in New Hampshire's Black Heritage. It was the first, and until 1946, the only church in New Hampshire owned by an African-American congregation. It is one of a handful of historic Black churches surviving in northern New England. The Pearl Street Church served Portsmouth's first African-American congregation and the larger Seacoast Black community until the 1980s, when the congregation reorganized, built a new building, and sold the Pearl Street Church.

The church was initially constructed as a Freewill Baptist Church in 1857 and extended westward by ten feet in 1868. In 1915 the Freewill Baptist Church merged with the Middle Street Baptist Church. People's Baptist Church acquired the building that same year. People's Baptist Church was an outgrowth of the People's Mission at the South Ward Room, founded in 1890 as an auxiliary branch of the Middle Street Baptist Church. In 1908 the Middle Street Baptist Church congregation voted to support People's Baptist Church becoming a "distinct Colored Baptist Church.'

In addition to religious services, the Pearl Street Church was at times the site of a multi-racial New Year's Service to honor the memory of the Emancipation Proclamation, a celebration observed in a number of

locations around Portsmouth for almost a century. In the 1970s Emancipation Day at the Pearl Street Church was replaced by celebration of Juneteenth, the African-American observance of the ending of slavery (a nationwide event held each June 19th).

The congregation welcomed pulpit exchanges with other churches and faith traditions as well as seminarians. In 1952 Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr., then a doctoral student at Boston University, was a guest preacher. Miss Coretta Scott, a member of the guest choir from Malden, Massachusetts, sang a solo. King and Scott married the following year. The post-war Pearl Street congregation was multidenominational and hosted many African-American charitable, social, and political activities. In the 1970s some of the congregation reorganized as New Hope Baptist Church. In January 2000, the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) celebrated the state's first Martin Luther King Day at the Pearl Street Church.



Waterloo Historic District, Warner NH. Listed September 13,2003. (Photograph by John T. Howe)

he Village of Waterloo, located in the western part of Warner about two miles northwest of the town center, was originally established around the first mill sites at the great falls (Waterloo) on the Warner River. Its earliest buildings date from the 1790s; these were followed by structures dating from the early-to late- 19th century.

The Waterloo Historic District has been listed to the National Register of Historic Places for significance in a number of areas. The district is important in the category of Community Planning and Development as a well-preserved vernacular village settlement of central New Hampshire,

documenting the history of a small village that grew up around waterpower and industrial sites.

The railroad's arrival in Waterloo encouraged more settlement and commerce and, in time, summer home tourism. Waterloo is significant in Transportation for its associations with stagecoach travel and taverns as well as the railroad. The Waterloo Covered Bridge is important in Engineering as a fine representation of the Town Lattice Truss bridge, one of only fifteen surviving in New Hampshire. Architecturally, the district expresses a number of styles, including Georgian, Federal, Queen Anne, and vernacular side hall and Cape Cod dwellings.

Waterloo is significant also for associations with two important politicians, Nehemiah G. Ordway (1828-1907) and William E. Chandler (1835-1917). Together with Edward H. Rollins, Ordway and Chandler were instrumental in organizing the Republican Party on a statewide basis and had considerable influence in the party nationally. During his tenure at Waterloo, Chandler entertained large numbers of guests at his home and even acquired the house across the street to accommodate his staff and servants. Among the notables entertained by Chandler at Waterloo was President Theodore Roosevelt.

Christine E. Fonda National Register Coordinator

#### We Need Your Ideas!

he New Hampshire Division of Historical Resources (DHR) is preparing its FY 2004 work program, based on the state historic preservation plan. Our federal partner, the National Park Service, encourages us to use public opinion as a guide for developing our program, and we want YOUR ideas. For a copy of the DHR's FY 2004 questionnaire, write or call the Division of Historical Resources at P.O. Box 2043, Concord NH 03302-2043 (603-271-3483). E-mail requests should be sent to preservation@nhdhr.state.nh.us. Or download a copy at http:// www.nh.gov/nhdhr. Please ask for a questionnaire soon: replies are due back to DHR by November 20, 2003.

#### Contoocook Bridge...

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fire retardant chemicals for the wooden span, and provided countless hours of volunteer labor in maintaining the bridge.

For the current building campaign, Tim Andrews has brought heavy steel I-beams (lent by the New Hampshire Department of Transportation) from his last job, the award-winning restoration of the Bog Covered Bridge in Andover. Andrews also hopes to straighten some of the kinks that the bridge acquired when it was tipped off its abutments in the flood of 1936 and again in the hurricane of 1938.

Contoocook Bridge is one of three surviving covered bridges on the Concord and Claremont rail line. Two others, in western Newport, are also state-owned, but are administered as trail crossings by the Department of Resources and Economic Development (DRED). Together, the three remaining Concord and Claremont Branch bridges are among the most remarkable of the eight covered railroad bridges that survive in the world. The 1889 Contoocook Bridge is the oldest of the eight; Pier Bridge (1907) in Newport is the longest; and Wright's Bridge (1906) in Newport is the only surviving double Town lattice truss railroad bridge with integral laminated wood plank arches. Recognizing this rarity, the Historic American Engineering Record (HAER) selected Contoocook Bridge and its sister span, Wright's Bridge, for detailed study and recordation this summer.

After it ceased to serve rail traffic in 1960, the Contoocook Bridge was owned by a succession of private individuals. The bridge became the property of the Town of Hopkinton (Contoocook is a village in Hopkinton) in 1989. Not wanting to own and maintain the span, Hopkinton offered the bridge to the State of New Hampshire. Governor Judd Gregg and the executive council accepted the gift in 1990.

Under state law, the Division of Historical Resources becomes administratively responsible for any historic covered bridge that is donated to the state by a munici– pality. Without a capital budget, DHR has depended almost entirely on the National Society for the Preservation of Covered Bridges for financial help in maintaining the bridge.

DHR has also partnered with the Contoocook Riverway Association, which owns the nearby Contoocook Railroad Depot (1850). Together, the Association and DHR have won a Transportation Enhancement grant for restoration of the bridge and the railroad station. Once the bridge is securely underpinned, DHR will combine Transportation Enhancement grant funds and Conservation License Plate ("Moose Plate") revenues to install a fire sprinkler system in the bridge, paint the exterior using an authentic Boston and Maine Railroad paint formula, and install interpretive signage and interior security lighting.

James L. Garvin State Architectural Historian

#### Eagle Block... continued from page 1

The complex project will transform the brick block from a fire-damaged and derelict presence on Main Street into a proud symbol of Newport's stature, past and future.

The first phase of work on the Eagle is being undertaken by Graton Associates of Ashland, well known in Newport as builders of the new Corbin Covered Bridge (1994). Arnold M. Graton and Arnold Graton, Jr., have installed an elaborate system of cribbing and shoring from basement to attic. This support will secure the brick walls while the weight is relieved from the timber floor framing and a supplementary structural system is built within the block.

The Eagle Block was built in 1825 as the Eagle Hotel, a three-story brick tavern that symbolized Newport's ascendancy as the Sullivan County seat and its rising prominence as a center of transportation, manufacturing, and trade. Together with its contemporaries, the Old Sullivan County Courthouse and the South Congregational Church, the Eagle survives as one of few visible reminders of Newport's first period of prosperity.

The tavern ceased operation in 1856. Thereafter, the Eagle Block

prospered as a dry goods store until 1928, when owners converted it to an apartment building. Maintained marginally during the latter part of the twentieth century, it was badly damaged by arson on July 25, 1993.

Sturm, Ruger Corporation, firearms manufacturers with a large Newport plant, eventually purchased the empty structure. The New Hampshire preservation community immediately began to work with the new owners to find ways to rehabilitate the building. Sturm, Ruger passed title to the Economic Corporation of Newport (ECON) in June, 1999 in a property exchange that was hailed as "one of the most stunning rescues in the history of preservation in New Hampshire."

Starting with cash donations pledged over a two-hour period to secure the building, ECON has since leveraged funding from many sources into a cash total of over \$2 million, plus substantial in-kind investment in the project. The Eagle Block was designated a Save America's Treasures project in December 1999 and in 2001 received both a \$250,000 Save America's Treasures grant and a firstround LCHIP grant of \$135,000.



Temporary cribbing, Eagle Block. (Photograph by James L. Garvin)

ECON has combined funding and credits from an array of other programs to rehabilitate the building as an engine of economic development for Newport. Among the largest funding agencies are the New Hampshire Community Development Finance Authority, the New Hampshire Department of Resources and Economic Development, the New Hampshire Office of State Planning (which awarded two Community

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#### New Hampshire State Register of Historic Places

he New Hampshire Division of Historical Resources is pleased to announce that nine more properties have been listed in the New Hampshire State Register of Historic Places.

For more information on the benefits of listing a property on the State Register and the application process, please visit our web site, http://www.nh.gov/nhdhr/ barnstatereg.html, or contact the DHR at PO Box 2043, Concord, NH 03302, 603-271-3483.

Elizabeth H. Muzzey State Survey Coordinator



The Brown Company Barns, East Milan Road, Berlin: Two large 19th century barns, used to shelter workhorses and hav for the Brown Paper Company's logging operations and W.R. Brown's Arabian horses. The Thompson Farm barn is pictured here. (Photograph: Berlin and Coos County Historical Society)



The Rolfe Barn in Penacook Village, **Concord:** A rare and well-preserved example of a late 18th century double English barn, built in a single campaign with very high caliber framing techniques. (Photograph: Elizabeth Durfee Hengen)



The Union Meetinghouse, Belknap Mountain Road, Gilford: Built in 1830, this landmark in Gilford village was remodeled in the Carpenter Gothic style in the late 1880s. The extensive decorative woodworking installed in the sanctuary at that time is an early and unusual example of a technique that gained wide popularity in the early 20th century. (Photograph: Thompson-Ames Historical Society)



Sunapee Mountain Grange #144, Mill Village Road North, Goshen: The gathering place for one of the town's most active social organizations throughout the 20th century. The grange's political and educational programs, offered to both members and the general public, linked Goshen families to communities across New Hampshire and the country. (Photograph: Thomas M. Gagnon)



The Ray Farm, Ray Road, Hillsborough: An intact late 18th century farmstead on 130 acres, farmed by the Ray family for more than 140 years. (Photograph: Rose and Tom Connelly)



Valley Cemetery, Pine and Auburn streets, Manchester: dedicated in 1841, this cemetery is both an excellent example of

garden cemetery design and the burial site of many leading citizens of 19th century Manchester. Pictured here is the Aretas Blood Mausoleum, dating from 1897. (Photograph: Minxie Fannin)



The Chamberlain Bridge, Daniel Webster Highway over the Souhegan River, Merrimack: a double stone arch bridge of notable length and curved design, built in 1921 at the center of Merrimack village. (Photograph: Merrimack Heritage Commission)



Daniel Smith Tavern, New Hampton: a longstanding landmark in New Hampton Village, the Daniel Smith Tavern welcomed travelers and visitors from 1805 to the 1920s. This historic view dates to c.1890. (Photograph: New Hampton Historical Society)



Four Corners Farm, Isaac Frye Highway, Wilton: first settled in c.1760, this 150+ acre farm was among the earliest in Wilton. A large and successful early 20th century dairy farm, it now is home to the Temple-Wilton Community Farm. (Photograph: High Mowing School, Wilton)

#### Eagle Block... continued from page 6

Development Block Grants), and two federal agencies, the Department of Housing and Urban Development and USDA Rural Development.

One use of the rehabilitated Eagle Block—a family restaurant—will echo the building's history as a hotel. But a second program looks toward Newport's renaissance in the twentyfirst century. Timken Aerospace and intelitek, a New Hampshire-based leader in manufacturing education, have partnered with ECON to establish the Tool and Technology Resource Center (TTRC) in the Eagle. This learning center will offer sophisticated training to employees of precision machining and advanced manufacturing firms in western New Hampshire.

Under the direction of Newport's visionary Patryc Wiggins, who led the fundraising for the Eagle Block project, the TTRC will transform a legacy from Newport's past into a catalyst for reshaping the region's economic future.

James L. Garvin State Architectural Historian

#### White Island Lighthouse

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double-walled tower are better understood, repair work will begin, with reliance on traditional approaches that have sustained the tower for 145 years. Under the terms of the federal grant and the perpetual preservation easement, DHR will continue to participate in planning and monitoring the work.

James L. Garvin State Architectural Historian

### View from the Solarium

The only thing constant in life is change, as they say, and here at the Division of Historical Resources we continue to see a lot of that. Our Preservation Planner, Richard Betterly, has decided to return to Pennsylvania.

Nancy Bibbins, the DHR's Grants Manager and coordinator of the Certified Local Governments program, has taken a well-deserved retirement. Nancy began her state service with the Department of Resources and Economic Development, but the Division of Historical Resources successfully enticed her to join the DHR as it made the transition from being the State Historic Preservation Office to its Division status.

In her role as Grants Manager, Nancy was responsible for keeping track of the our state and federal funds, along with the contributions of time, expertise, equipment and money given by volunteers as matching share.

Although we have some challenges in regrouping, we are very happy to report that we have one of the most ambitious grants

programs that we have had in years. Our Certified Local Governments (CLG) program, though modest, continues to help local communities' survey, inventory and plan for the protection of their historic resources.

You will read in this newsletter of the first round of Conservation License Plate (Moose Plate) grants we have been able to offer, and we expect to see this program continue to grow. Finally, the New Hampshire Legislature provided funds in this biennium to continue the Barn Grant program with state rather than federal funding, and we hope to be posting guidelines on that very popular program soon.

As we near the end of another busy year we wish all our readers and partners the very best, and we want to take this opportunity to thank all of you for your stewardship and your hard work.

James McConaha Director, Division of Historical Resources NH State Historic Preservation Officer

#### NEH Grants for Interpreting Historic Places

The National Endowment for the Humanities invites proposals for public programs that use one or more historic sites to address themes and issues central to American history in its America's Historic Places grant program. Projects can interpret a single historic site, a series of sites, whole neighborhoods, communities or towns, or larger geographical regions. The deadline is February 3, 2004.

For more information, visit the NEH web site: http://www.neh.gov.

State of New Hampshire • Department of Cultural Resources • Division of Historical Resources

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